WHERE THE SUGAR MAPLE GROWS; IDYLLS OF A CANADIAN VILLAGE

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649151509

Where the sugar maple grows; idylls of a Canadian village by Adeline M. Teskey & J. S. Gordon & W. Howard Bartie

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WHERE THE SUGAR MAPLE GROWS (((

Idylls of a Canadian Village By ADELINE M. TESKEY

ILLUSTRATIONS

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DESIGNS

By W. Howard Bartle

The Musson Book Company
Limited 4 Toronto

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THREE OF THE WOMEN.

WHERE THE SUGAR MAPLE GROWS.

THE GLAD SOUL.



SHRUNKEN little

figure below the medium height, attired in a plain black gown, guiltless of frill or pucker, a thin black shawl draping the narrow shoulders, and crowning all a bonnet, something after

the Shaker style, covered neatly with black silk: this was all I saw, for I had only a profile view, and the bonnet completely hid her face.

"Some commonplace little body with prudish ideas about dress," I meditated indifferently, "and these ideas not her own, but inherited."

Where the Sugar Maple Grows.

Later on coming out of church I saw her again.

I was walking down the aisle from one of the front seats, and she was seated in a back pew. There were several other women beside her, and I gave a casual glance at them all and looked away, but I looked back quickly, for I could see right into the black bonnet now, and into the face of its wearer. Such a face!—so white—so pure—so glad! I had heard of saintly faces, but this did not impress me so much as that of a saint, which might imply suffering, as that of a glad soul.

It must have been an old face on so shrunken a figure, yet I observed no wrinkles, no marks, nor scars of time on my first glance, nothing but the glad soul looking out.

I had traveled far and seen the beauties of many lands, I had been thrilled by feminine faces of sweet seventeen, and sweeter seventy, there had crossed my path "faces so fluid with expression, so flushed and rippled by the play of thought," that I could hardly find what the mere features really were; but this was the most joyous face that ever greeted my eyes. Who could the woman be?

Immediately I set to work to find out, and before leaving the church I learned that she